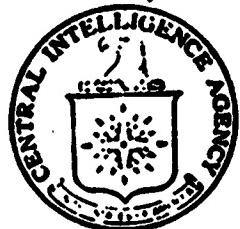


# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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BIOGRAPHIC REGISTER

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indicated that this great crowd he addressed witnessed his visit between 10,000 and 15,000 persons of various social classes and the "parties" which were then being organized in Paris. Mr. [unclear] also referred his speech of December 1st, 1917, in which he reiterated his appeal of December 1st, 1916, to the French government to re-emphasize his repeated statement that the importance of a French-German understanding is very great.

Regarding the present situation of the war system or a strategic situation to consider, Poincaré has urged the French adoption of new legislation to regulate the extensive financial and tax reforms, including the preparation of a budget, which he does not believe if the capital cannot be so levied in the 1918 tax collection, must result in great loss for the nation.

A reader of the "London Times" writes further to 1917, Poincaré now holds responsibility in the Foreign Office as Minister of War, having previously been Minister of Finance and before this Minister of the Interior. Poincaré was a member of the French party as of 1917, and was also connected with the R.D.P., according to the "Times". The Foreign and Colonies Ministry is considered to be a "Pouvoir" on the part of Poincaré, who apparently supports him. French policy in Europe, reportedly, seems to be particularly to maintain the neutrality of France in its' association with the Entente. After a 1917 trip to the U.S. to argue the case of Alsace-Lorraine, in the defense of which he was successful, Poincaré made an effort to secure the support of the Entente in the defense of the western front. He also called upon the Entente and the State of France to make preparations against the threat of a British invasion of France. He continues concerning this meeting with the Entente to mention the

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Rudolf Berg (continued)

Berg stated publicly that, although German industry supported Adenauer's policy of European integration, the proposed trip was designed solely for the establishment of normal trade relations with the USA; such as are maintained by other Western nations. In the same press interview Berg commented that German industry had always recognized the need for placing the country's political interest above economic interest. Criticizing Berg's statement, the FDP press claimed that he had no right to offer his own personal political views as the opinion of German industry as a whole. 21/22/ At a more recent press conference, Berg insisted on the right of industrial organizations to advise Parliament on economic matters, rejecting the charge that this meant "playing politics." According to Berg, it is an obsolete view that manufacturers should concentrate solely on the management of their factories without taking notice of political developments. 23/

Although Berg's position makes him potentially one of the most authoritative spokesman for West German businesses, at least one report questions the merit of his influence, claiming that he is "completely dominated by more important influences". 24/ He is elsewhere referred to as an "able and unscrupulous businessman" who has "tread on his acquaintances many times, heavy industrialists and conservative officials. 25/ A report which describes Berg as highly respected in German industrial circles notes that, in January 1953, the Federal Republic awarded him the Federal Service Cross with Star. 26/ According to still another source, although he is not considered a person of outstanding ability, Berg's influence lies in the fact that he represents the views of the Ruhr coal and steel producers. 27/ In 1947 Berg was arrested and later acquitted on a charge which reportedly involved the improper possession of British classified documents and the misappropriation of 300,000 tons of steel. Of possible significance is a statement (which appeared in a 1951 biographic sketch of Berg) that Berg, a Lutheran by confession, left the church during the Nazi era. 28/

Ernst Wilhelm (Dr.)

Currently Secretary General of the Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie (BDI - Federation of German Industry), and a member of several West German economic organizations, Dr. Ernst Wilhelm Beutler was for twenty years a leader of the German cable makers' cartel. 1/2/3/4/

Beutler, who was born on 5 September 1897 in Dusseldorf, studied law at Bonn and Cologne and was appointed a junior barrister in 1921. After working for a leading cable manufacturer in Cologne, he moved to Upper Silesia where he became executive secretary of the Silesian branch of the cable makers' cartel in 1926, transferring to the Berlin office in 1937. Beutler worked with this cartel until 1945, spending the last four years as its executive secretary at the headquarters in Berlin. In February 1946, he became executive secretary of the Industrial Association for steel-drawing and cold-rolling mills, a position he held until 1950.

- 3 -

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52-1-26-10

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Reinhard Beutler (Dr.) (cont'd. at)

when he assisted Dr. Max Hirsch in founding the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Eisen und Metall (a trade association for the iron and steel industry). He was appointed Secretary General of the AEM in October 1949. 1/3

Described as an expert on non-governmental economic organizations, Beutler has served on the Bizonal Working Committee for Foreign Trade and the German Working Group for Matters of the International Goods Arbitration Court within the International Chamber of Commerce. 1/ In May 1951 he was elected to the Executive Board of European Union. 2/ An article appearing in the Welt (Munich) on 18 February 1954 reported that H. W. Reutler, identified as the Secretary General of the EBU and a member of the Datensturm (West German organization concerned with problems of trade with the Unter den Linden) had made a statement, widely quoted in the German press, of the increased opportunity for East-West trade and the need to give priority to such trade in Federal German foreign trade policy. Since an industrial directory identified Helmut Reutler, a known exporter, as the Ostmarkt member, and H. W. Reutler of Cologne as the EBU official, it appears that an error has been made in the press article; nevertheless, it has not been possible to determine to which Reutler the article refers. 3/ Reutler was in New York during December 1953 as a participant in the International Industrial Conference, and in January 1954 he visited Paris with Fritz Leyg and other EBU representatives for meetings of the Council of European Industrial Federations. 4/

Before 1933 Beutler was an active member of the Katholische Vereinigung (an anti-Nazi group). Although allegedly a former Fransman, he is said to have taken a leading part in Catholic activities in Bielefeld and he was not a member of any Nazi organizations. After 1933 he was actively engaged in forming the PDP and served at one time as deputy chairman of the North Rhine Province Committee. Described as "stubborn, ambitious and a very capable organizer," Beutler has been described as a firm believer in private enterprise who is fundamentally opposed to control of industry by either the state or the trade unions. 5/

Hermann C. (Dr.)

Recently singled out as one of three outstanding West Germans in the electrical field, Dr. Hermann C. Roden, who had been associated with the Allgemeine Elektricitäts-Gesellschaft (AEG-General Electric Company) since the early 1930's, is now assigned as Deputy Chairman of the Vorstand (management) of AEG. 1/2/

A native of Braunschweig, Roden was born on 29 July 1893. He studied at the University of Kielburg, receiving his Dr. Jur. (law degree) in 1922. 2/ During World War I, he was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, where he received a diploma in political and economic science. 2/ After serving with the German army in France and Russia, Roden went to Paris in 1919 as a member of the Armistice Commission. During the 1920's he worked in the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Finance, attaining the civil service rank of "Ober"

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Walter von Boden (Dr.) (continued)

regierungsamt. 2/6/ He acted as Secretary General of the German delegation to the Reparations Commission in 1950. 7/

Joining the AGO complex at Berlin in the early 1930's, Boden was placed in charge of administrative affairs. By 1942 he was a member of the AGO Vorstand, deputy chairman of the supervisory council of an AGO subsidiary and member of the supervisory council in three other electrical firms. 2/7/ He also held membership in the Working Committee of the Reich Council for Industry and Commerce and in the Working Circle for Foreign Trade (Bundesrat). 6/7/

In his present capacity at AGO, Boden directs all operations outside the Berlin area and is considered to be "one of 10" the financial, legal and policy man for the entire company. 8/ He is also chairman of the supervisory council of Elettrofisca AG (Berlin) and Olympia Maschinenwerk AG (Mitschenhagen), a chairman of two supervisory councils of West Germania AG (Gelsenkirchen) and a member of the supervisory council of six additional firms, including Tele AG. 1/8/

Boden was Deputy Chairman of the German delegation to the meeting on Schuman Plan negotiations held in June 1950 at Paris. 1/9/ It was reported that Adenauer offered him the chairmanship of the delegation, but that he declined. 2/ As a member of the German group of the International Chamber of Commerce, F.I.C., he addressed the 18th Congress of the I.C.C. held at Vienna in May 1953 on the subject, "Economic Unification versus Sectional Integration." 8/ Among the Germans who made the United States in 1951 to discuss American capital investments in Germany with the National Association of Manufacturers, Boden has reportedly made several other trips to the United States. 1/ In 1953 he was one of a German delegation which visited Cairo to discuss with the Arab League States the possibility of German technical and economic assistance. 9/ Boden is a member of the Foreign Trade Committee of the Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie (BDI-Federation of German Industry). 10/

Although reported as a strong German nationalist, Boden is believed to have been a non-Nazi and to have resisted National Socialist attempts to dominate AGO. 2/11/ A US industrialist who has known him for many years states that Boden did not sympathize with the Nazis and is at present definitely anti-Communist. 1/

A close friend of Adenauer, Boden was reported in 1951 to have considerable influence with the Chancellor, who at one time is said to have offered him the position of permanent head of the Federal Ministry of Economics. Boden reportedly advocates full cooperation between Germany and the Western Powers. 2/ Although described by one source as "fundamentally weak," he has also been referred to as one of outstanding intelligence with considerable ability in matters regarding policy, finance and general affairs, and possessing excellent contacts, keen analytical skill and broad experience. 1/2/10/

- 5 -

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32-7-26-13

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FRIEDRICH PILZ (Dr.)

(Dr.) Friedr. Pilz has been executive secretary of the Wirtschaftsvereinigung Eisen- und Stahl- und Blechwarenindustrie (Economic Association for the Iron, Steel and Tin and Metalware Industry), its postwar successor, the Wirtschaftsverband Eisen-, Stahl- und Metallwarenindustrie, since 1953. He is reported to have an extensive network in this organization. / /

Born on 6 February 1901 in ... Pilz studied Law and Economics at the University of Freiburg, Karlsruhe, Tübingen and Bonn, graduating in 1922. After holding various positions in the iron and steel processing industry, he became secretary of two German industrial associations in 1927. / /

After World War II Pilz took a leading role in developing the Working Community for Iron and Metal, later becoming a member of the Working Community of the Iron and Metal Processing Industry (VII). One of three German members of the International Congress of Industrial Manufacturers, Pilz also belongs to the Dachverband der Deutschen Industrie (FFI-Federation of German Industry). / /

Pilz joined the Nazi Party in May 1933. Appointed Commissioner for Mobilization at the outbreak of the war, in 1944 and 1945 he also held a position parallel to his civilian one in the Main Committee for the Armed Forces and National Economy (Armaments) Ministry. Although he maintained his position throughout the Hitler regime, he has since professed many testimonials concerning his opposition to Nazism and his aid to its victims. According to a 1951 report, Pilz "can emphasize his European outlook," and is allegedly pro-British. He is a Roman Catholic. / /

As a participant in the International Management Productivity Mission or First International Conference of Manufacturers, Pilz visited the United States late in 1951. / / Referred to in one report as "one of the more enlightened men of the steel processing industry," Pilz has been described as ambitious, energetic and well informed. / /

WILHELM VOLLMUTH (Dr.) ← D-8

The Director of the Rheinisch-Westfälische Bank and business manager of the Arbeitsverwaltung (Administrative Office), both in Düsseldorf, Dr. Wilhelm Vollmuth also served as Deputy Chairman of the supervisory council of Volksbank Münster (a leather factory in Münster) and as a member of the supervisory council of Montagut AG, Monte-Konink Lederfabrik, Herten, J. Schmid & Sohn AG (a mining firm in Lünen). Born on 10 July 1890 at Düsseldorf, Vollmuth is known to have held the following positions in 1940: Director, Darmstädter Bank; deputy chairman of the supervisory council, Wiedervereinigte Verwaltung (Administration of the Leather Industry); and member of the supervisory council.

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POL(MI), Polenith (Re.) (continued)

of four other firms. His bureau at that time was Berlin-Wilmersdorf. 2/3 In 1953 he was also reported to be an officer of the Deutsche Bank fuer Ostasien (East Asia). b/

In June 1954 Pollens was reportedly slated to go to Moscow as a member of a delegation of the Ostarchivus, a West German industrial committee dealing with trade relations with the East. 3/ Shortly before the scheduled departure, however, the trip was indefinitely postponed at the request of Chancellor Adenauer. b/

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The information contained in this report does not include data which may be held in the security or counter-intelligence files of CIA or any other US agency.

- 7 -

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- 8 -  
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32-7-26-103

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- 9 -

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